



**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE
PLANNING AND ZONING MEETING
CITY OF THIBODAUX
NOVEMBER 6, 2019**

The Planning and Zoning of the City of Thibodaux assembled in special session at its regular meeting place, City Hall, 310 West 2nd Street, Thibodaux, Louisiana, on Wednesday, November 6, 2019 at 5:00 P.M.

There were present: Clay Breaud, Robert Mire, Mark Kearns, Cheryl Thomas, Drew Andrews

Absent: None

The minutes of the October 2, 2019 Planning and Zoning Special Meeting were approved as written.

YEAS: Breaud, Mire, Kearns, Thomas, Andrews

NAYS: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: None

Clay Breaud, Chairman of the Board noted the Board would deviate from the agenda and review items six and seven due to the possible lengthy discussion of item five on the agenda.

Michael Blanchard, Acadia Land Surveying, LLC addressed the Board on behalf St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church for final plat approval of re-division of property into Parcel A and Parcel B located on the south side of Menard Street approximately 957.94' north from East 7th Street in Section 29, T15S-R16E, City of Thibodaux, Louisiana. Mr. Blanchard noted they are just looking to divide the property so each school is on its own individual lot in which they are currently separated by a fence.

Clay Breaud, Chairman of the Board noted this is just a re-division of property to separate into two tracts; all utilities are currently there and will remain the same.

On motion of Mire, seconded by Kearns, the Board voted on a motion to approve the final plat for re-division of property into Parcel A and Parcel B located on the south side of Menard Street.....Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Breaud, Mire, Kearns, Thomas, Andrews

NAYS: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: None

Fredrick Jones addressed the Board on behalf of Freddie and Barbara Gaines to be granted a special exception to place a new 32' x 60' manufactured home on lot located at 1342 Ledet Street within an R-4 Zoning District.

Clay Breaud, Chairman of the Board noted the board was provided with a more precise map of the location showing the division of property in which the area is zoned to allow manufactured homes as a special exception if granted. Mr. Breaud also noted they would still have to comply with Section 803. (H) when applying for building permit. He also posed questions of utilities in which Mr. Soignet replied all utilities are there and the city sees no issue.

On motion of Thomas, seconded by Kearns, the Board voted on a motion to approve to grant a special exception to place a new 32' x 60' manufactured home on lot located at 1342 Ledet Street.....Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Breaud, Mire, Kearns, Thomas, Andrews

NAYS: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: None

Marguerite Erwin, 840 East 1st Street, addressed the Board on behalf of the City Administration and the Sign Ordinance Committee to amend and re-enact portions of the Sign Ordinance, Article IX, to read as follows:

Section 904 Prohibited Signs. (C) Signs which are electronic, display video, animation or flashing, except time and temperature, unless otherwise permitted in Sections 907 and 908. Mrs. Erwin noted this is just adding Section 908 in regards of it being omitted accidentally when the Sign Ordinance was typed up.

On motion of Kearns, seconded by Thomas, the Board voted on a motion to accept this inclusive of Section 908.....Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Breaud, Mire, Kearns, Thomas, Andrews
NAYS: None
ABSTAINED: None
ABSENT: None

Section 907 Sign Standards – on premises. Portion of (E) (6) as follows: ...The electronic sign must not exceed a maximum illumination of seven thousand five hundred (7,500) nits (candelas per square meter) during daylight hours and a maximum illumination of five hundred (500) nits (candelas per square meter) between dusk to dawn as measured from the sign's face at maximum brightness. Mrs. Erwin noted this is a reduction of illumination from 8,500 nits during daylight hours and a reduction of illumination from 750 nits between dusk to dawn.

Clay Breaud along with Mark Kearns noted this is making it more stringent from a stand point of less illumination.

John Lafargue, 215 East Bayou Road addressed the Board with concerns in regards to how it would be monitored in which Roland Soignet, Zoning Administrator stated the City will purchase an ambient light meter monitor.

On motion of Mire, seconded by Andrews, the Board voted on a motion to accept the reduction of maximum illuminations of 7,500 nits during daylight hours and maximum illumination of 500 nits from dusk to dawn.....Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Breaud, Mire, Kearns, Thomas, Andrews
NAYS: None
ABSTAINED: None
ABSENT: None

Section 908 Off-premise outdoor advertising. (C) (2) Electronic or digital signs are limited to the size of the existing structure that is being replaced. Mrs. Erwin noted Section 908 (C) (2) is an add-on sentence. It is actually making it more restrictive to replace the size of sign by replacing it with what is in existence.

John Lafargue, 215 East Bayou Road addressed the Board with his suggestion of adding to this to take the average of the four signs since this would be part of the exchange to average the four signs or the existing sign size whichever is smaller in which Mrs. Erwin disagreed due to the Sign Committee wanting to reduce the number of signs throughout the City making it look more attractive and still business friendly.

On motion of Thomas, seconded by Mire, the Board voted on a motion to accept the request to add Section 908 (C) (2) Electronic or digital signs are limited to the size of the existing structure that is being replaced as presented.....Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Breaud, Mire, Kearns, Thomas, Andrews
NAYS: None
ABSTAINED: None
ABSENT: None

Section 908 Off-premise outdoor advertising. (F) (1) (c) (i.) During Daylight hours between sunrise and sunset, luminance shall be no greater than seven thousand five hundred (7,500) nits.

Clay Breaud, Chairman of the Board noted this is making it more restrictive in which Mrs. Erwin agreed. Mr. Breaud and Mark Kearns posed questions of the average illumination of signs and how the illumination is gaged when constructing signs, if specs could be submitted to control illumination in which Mr. Moreuax replied he was uncertain of the average illumination. Electronic signs obtained from the factory and adjust themselves to the sun and daylight and the internally illuminated is a basic high output standard florescent bulb and specs could be provided to the factory.

On motion of Andrews, seconded by Mire, the Board voted on a motion to accept Section 908 (F) (1) (c) (i) During Daylight hours between sunrise and sunset, luminance shall be no greater than seven thousand five hundred (7,500) nits as presented.....Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Breaud, Mire, Kearns, Thomas, Andrews
NAYS: None
ABSTAINED: None
ABSENT: None

(F) (1) (c) (ii.) At all other times, luminance shall be no greater than five hundred (500) nits. Mrs. Erwin noted this is a reduction from 750 nits to 500 nits, making it more restrictive throughout the City.

On motion of Mire, seconded by Thomas, the Board voted on a motion to accept (F) (1) (c) (ii.) At all other times, luminance shall be no greater than five hundred (500) nits as presented.....Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Breaud, Mire, Kearns, Thomas, Andrews
NAYS: None

ABSTAINED: None
ABSENT: None

(F) (1) (c) (iii.) All electronic signs shall be required to have an ambient light monitor or similar device that will automatically adjust the brightness level based on ambient light conditions. Mrs. Erwin noted electronic signs would have to have an internal monitor and again this is making illumination more restrictive.

Mark Kearns questioned if this would control the nits or just control from dusk to dawn in which Mrs. Erwin replied it would control from dusk to dawn and suggested the City invest in an ambient light meter.

On motion of Kearns, seconded by Andrews, the Board voted on a motion to accept (F) (1) (c) (iii.) All electronic signs shall be required to have an ambient light monitor or similar device that will automatically adjust the brightness level based on ambient light conditions as presented.....Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

YEAS: Breaud, Mire, Kearns, Thomas, Andrews
NAYS: None
ABSTAINED: None
ABSENT: None

Clay Breaud noted an email was received in regards to recommendations of changes to the Sign Ordinance.

James Barr, resident of Thibodaux voiced his concern with regard to placement of electronic signs which are critical for the safety of the citizens.

Rob Whitman, 219 W 7th Street voiced his concerns with vagueness of verbiage for off-premise signs and replacement of digital on-premise signs and relocation of signs with the possibility of increasing the footprint by having signs in two different locations.

John Lafargue, 215 E Bayou Road voiced his concerns with the process of the sign ordinance revision.

Marguerite Erwin noted the Sign Committee was appointed and under the discretion of the Mayor and proposed recommendations which could have been voted on or voted down.

Clay Breaud noted the Board looks forward to any additional comments and these revisions will be submitted to the Council for them to take action on it now or if they feel the need to wait a couple months to see if anything further comes up.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Liz Guidry, Secretary

Roland Soignet, Zoning Administrator